

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 3, without prejudice; amend claims 1, 8 and 9; and add new claim 10 as indicated below. The status of all claims is as follows:

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1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic head comprising:

a magnetoresistance film;

a flux guide formed so as to overlap said magnetoresistance film, said flux guide being out of plane with said magnetoresistance film, the flux guide guiding a signal magnetic field from a magnetic recording medium to said magnetoresistance film; and  
a flux-guide regulating film aligning magnetic domains of said flux guide into a single magnetic domain.

2. (Original) The magnetic head as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flux guide is formed as a separate element from said magnetoresistance film.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The magnetic head as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of sides and surfaces of said flux-guide regulating film is magnetically connected with said flux guide.

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5. (Original) The magnetic head as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flux-guide regulating film is one of a highly coercive-force film and an antiferromagnetic film.

6. (Original) The magnetic head as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flux-guide regulating film also aligns magnetic domains of said magnetoresistance film into a single magnetic domain.

7. (Original) The magnetic head as claimed in claim 1, wherein said magnetoresistance film is a magnetoresistance film of one of a spin-valve type and a tunnel-junction type.

8. (Currently Amended) A magnetic reproducing device comprising:  
a magnetic head including:  
a magnetoresistance film;  
a flux guide formed so as to overlap out of plane with said magnetoresistance film, the flux guide guiding a signal magnetic field from a magnetic recording medium to said magnetoresistance film; and  
a flux-guide regulating film aligning magnetic domains of said flux guide into a single magnetic domain.

9. (Currently Amended) A magnetic head comprising:

a magnetoresistance film;

a flux guide guiding a signal magnetic field from a magnetic recording medium to said magnetoresistance film; and

a flux-guide regulating film aligning magnetic domains of said flux guide into a single magnetic domain,

wherein said flux guide is formed out of plane with and as a part of said magnetoresistance film.

10. (New) A magnetic reproducing device comprising:

a magnetic head including:

a magnetoresistance film;

a flux guide guiding a signal magnetic field from a magnetic recording medium to said magnetoresistance film; and

a flux guide regulating film aligning magnetic domains of said flux guide into a single magnetic domain,

wherein said flux guide is formed out of plane with and as a part of said magnetoresistance film.